Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1.9422
48F7342
Cop 3

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION
Office of Supply
425 Wilson Building
Dallas 1, Texas

LIBRARY
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
☆ SEP 24 1945 ☆
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Approximate Time
First Part 5 Minutes
Second Part 3½ Minutes
June 25, 1945
No. 26

1. MUSIC: UP AND UNDER

2. ANNOUNCER: Radio Station _____ presents...FOOD FRONT HEADLINES...a behind-the scene story on how our food moves from farms to battle lines...from ships to Allied supply depots... from grocery shelves to civilian tables. And here is _____, District Representative of the War Food Administration with the most recent developments on the sugar situation.

3. DIST. REP: At the very outset of this year we knew we'd have less sugar...a million pounds less than we actually used in 1944. We took a look at our sugar reserves...made the best estimate we could of production from the current crop...and then decided we'd have enough sugar to allocate civilians 5 million tons for 1945. Now everybody is asking...What became of this 5 million tons of sugar that supplies should suddenly become so tight? This is the question _____ and I are going to try answering for you.

4. ANNOUNCER: I think we'd better make it clear, _____, that the 5 million tons of sugar was not actually on hand at the first of the year. A large part of the total must come from this year's crop...so we can't safely count on getting all the sugar we were allotted. There's a lot of uncertainties between the time a crop is planted and the time the sugar finds its way to your table. Crops in some areas may be ruined by storms, dry weather or too much rain. A shortage of ships or labor may hold up imports. War traffic on transportation lines here in the United States may clog distribution. A thousand things could happen to reduce our supply.

5. DIST. REP: But even if we actually get all of this 5 million tons of sugar, we're still going to be in a jam, because we've already used more than half of this amount. Normally, we'd use only 45 percent of our year's supply during the first six months.

6. ANNOUNCER: That's the reason we didn't feel the pinch during the past months. We were using about as much sugar as we used last year...in fact, only five percent less.

7. DIST. REP: Now we're going to have to take up the slack in the last six months...just as we approach the peak of the canning season...when every homemaker needs additional sugar to preserve abundant fresh fruits and vegetables.

8. ANNOUNCER: Just what are civilain sugar allocations for July, August and September?

9. DIST. REP: One million, 380 thousand tons. This includes sugar for home, institutional and industrial uses.

10. ANNOUNCER: Well, that's only a little less sugar than we received during the last three months.

11. DIST. REP: That's true, but right now we're feeling the pinch more because we need more sugar for ice tea, frozen desserts and home canning.

12. ANNOUNCER: In other words, we think we have less sugar because our demand for it is greater.

13. DIST. REP: Exactly. And, of course, when we compare this quarter's sugar with the amount we received during the same period last year, we feel the pinch even more.

14. ANNOUNCER: If we only had some reserves to fall back on!

15. DIST. REP: But we don't. Since 1941, we've been using more sugar than we produced. We've cut our reserves almost to nothing. In 1946, all our sugar will come from current production.

16. ANNOUNCER: And we can't borrow from world stocks either.

17. DIST. REP: No, we can't, because the shortage of sugar is not just confined to the United States. The entire world supply is tight. The war in Europe practically stopped beet sugar production there, and reduced stocks to the vanishing point. Java, which used to supply many European countries as well as China with sugar, is still in Jap hands. All the Allies share in Cuba's sugar production, but this year it's off 800 thousand tons because of drought and tropical storms. So you see, we all depend on about the same sources for our sugar.

18. ANNOUNCER: We used to get some supplies from South America, but I understand these countries won't be able to meet even their own needs this year. And of course, we can't expect any portion of the million tons of sugar we used to get annually from the Philippines.

19. DIST. REP: Here in the United States, sugar beet production is down a half million tons from pre-war years. Labor shortages and more important crops, which had to be planted on the land normally put in sugar beets, are responsible for this reduction. However, the War Food Administration has been able to assure growers of more labor, so we can expect a little larger production this year.

20. ANNOUNCER: The labor problems seem to be the chief breakdown in Louisiana and Florida sugar production, too.

21. DIST. REP: It is, but this year we're importing more workers from Jamica and the Barbados. As it looks now, our domestic output of sugar will be about normal. However, even if it is, we can still suffer from shortages in other areas, because here in the United States we only produce one-fifth of the sugar we use. The rest we must import.

22. ANNOUNCER: That means we'll produce only one million here of the 5 million ton civilian allocation. The other four million must be imported.

23. DIST. REP: So the sugar situation boils down to this. We were allotted 5 million tons of sugar at the beginning of the year and we've used more than half of it. We don't have any more reserves or sugar producing areas to call on for more supplies, so we must stretch the remainder of our stocks over the rest of the year. This may work a hardship on homemakers who plan to preserve a lot of food. But don't let any fruits or vegetables go to waste. Use canning sugar only for preserving food.
Many foods will keep well with very little sugar...so use it sparingly...and supplement it with sirup and honey.

24. ANNOUNCER: And that's the latest dope on sugar. Listen next _____ to FOOD FRONT HEADLINES...presented as a public service feature by Radio Station _____ in cooperation with the War Food Administration to bring you inside facts from authoritative sources about what's happening on the agricultural firing line.

NOTE TO DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE: IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN FIVE MINUTES, CUT CUE NO. 24 AND CONTINUE WITH CUE NO. 25.

25. ANNOUNCER: Now that we've given our rendition of the "Sugar Blues", let's go over those other third quarter allocations, _____.

26. DIST. REP: Here's what we can expect so far as civilian supplies of dairy products are concerned. During July, August and September, civilians will get about 7 million pounds more butter. Of course, you know why.

27. ANNOUNCER: Yes, dairy farmers have their herds up to peak milk production and we've reduced overseas shipments.

28. DIST REP: You'd think increased milk production would mean more cheese, too, but civilian allocations are 20 million pounds less than the estimated amount we ate during the first quarter.

29. ANNOUNCER: Well, we can reason that out. We're shipping more cheese to the Pacific where it's one of the main protein foods our fighters eat.

30. DIST. REP: Evaporated milk allocations remain unchanged, but condensed milk is down slightly. Actually, on an overall basis, civilians will get about the same amount of dairy products they've been getting all along... thanks to the good work of our dairy farmers.

31. ANNOUNCER: Of course eggs are not allocated, but I would like to mention them since so many people are wondering what's happening to the supply.

32. DIST. REP: Always during the summer, the hens take a vacation. Production drops every year about this time.

33. ANNOUNCER: Well, I guess we can call on our stocks of eggs in cold storage. They should tide us over until the little red hen begins to cackle again this fall.

34. DIST. REP: Normally, we'd have enough eggs in cold storage to do just that...but during the spring when egg production was at its peak, we used eggs at the rate of 387 a year per person. We didn't put many cases in cold storage. The demand has not slackened any, because we're still using eggs as a meat substitute. And as a result, we have a bigger demand for eggs than ever at this time of the year, with less eggs in storage to meet it.

35. ANNOUNCER: If we ate eggs at the rate of 387 per person per year during the first four months, it isn't any wonder we're short of eggs, because our yearly supply of eggs only allows each one of us to eat 366 eggs this year. We've been eating eggs at a higher rate than hens can lay.

36. DIST. REP: The red meat shortage is also responsible for the shortage of eggs in another way, too. Many hens have been sold for meat, because the demand for poultry has been at record levels this year. Military requirements as well as civilian account for this.

37. ANNOUNCER: Well, when fall comes, I guess we can count on more eggs.

38. DIST. REP: Yes, I think we can. Production will be up and demand should be down a little, for we'll be getting more red meats and we'll need less eggs.

39. ANNOUNCER: _____, I believe we just about covered all the important changes on the food front...but there'll likely be some more next week. So if you want to keep posted...listen next _____ to FOOD FRONT HEADLINES... presented as a public service feature by Radio Station _____ in cooperation with the War Food Administration to bring you inside facts from authoritative sources about what's happening on the agricultural firing line.

oOo